2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

### **PARTIES**

- 2. As used in this Complaint, the word "Plaintiff" shall refer to Plaintiff Denise Miller.
- As used in this Complaint, the word "Defendant" shall refer to all 3. Defendants named in this Complaint.

## FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST DEFENDANT BREACH OF THE IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY CAL. CIV. CODE § 1794

- 4. On or about July 24, 2007, Plaintiff purchased a 2006 Buick Lucerne, VIN #1G4HP57236U173253 (hereafter "Vehicle") which was manufactured, distributed, or sold by Defendant. The total consideration which Plaintiff paid or agreed to pay, including taxes, license, and finance charges is \$30,552.83. The Vehicle was purchased primarily for personal, family, or household purposes. Plaintiff purchased the Vehicle from a person or entity engaged in the business of manufacturing, distributing, or selling consumer goods at retail.
- 5. In connection with the purchase, Plaintiff received an express written warranty in which Defendant undertook to preserve or maintain the utility or performance of the Vehicle or to provide compensation if there is a failure in utility or performance for a specified period of time. The warranty provided, in relevant part, that in the event a defect developed with the Vehicle during the warranty period, Plaintiff could deliver the Vehicle for repair services to Defendant's representative and the Vehicle would be repaired.
- 6. During the warranty period, the Vehicle contained or developed defects which cause a grinding noise when turning the steering wheel, defects which cause the steering wheel not to return to center after completing a turn, defects which cause a popping noise in the steering at times when turning the steering wheel, and defects which cause the vehicle to pull hard to the right.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

	7.	Pursuant to Civil Code §§ 1792 and 1791.1, the sale of the Vehicle
was	accomp	panied by Defendant's implied warranty of merchantability. The
dura	tion of	the implied warranty is coextensive in duration with the duration of the
expr	ess writ	ten warranty provided by Defendant.

- 8. The implied warranty of merchantability means and includes that the Vehicle will comply with each of the following requirements: (1) The Vehicle will pass without objection in the trade under the contract description; (2) The Vehicle is fit for the ordinary purposes for which such goods are used; (3) The Vehicle is adequately contained, packaged, and labeled; and (4) The Vehicle will conform to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container or label.
- On or about July 24, 2007, or during the time period in which the implied warranty was in effect, the Vehicle contained or developed the defects stated in paragraph 6, above. The existence of each of these defects constitutes a breach of the implied warranty because the Vehicle (1) does not pass without objection in the trade under the contract description, (2) is not fit for the ordinary purposes for which such goods are used, (3) is not adequately contained, packaged, and labeled, and (4) does not conform to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container or label.
- Plaintiff has rightfully rejected and/or justifiably revoked acceptance of the Vehicle, and has exercised a right to cancel the sale. By serving this Complaint, Plaintiff does so again. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks the remedies provided in California Civil Code section 1794(b)(1), including the entire purchase price. In addition, Plaintiff seeks the remedies set forth in California Civil Code section 1794(b)(2), including the diminution in value of the Vehicle resulting from its defects. Plaintiff believes that, at the present time, the Vehicle's value is de minimis.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Plaintiff has been damaged by Defendant's failure to comply with its 11. obligations under the implied warranty, and therefore brings this claim pursuant to Civil Code § 1794.

## **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF** BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST DEFENDANT BREACH OF THE IMPLIED WARRANTY OF FITNESS CAL. CIV. CODE § 1794

- Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in 12. paragraphs 4 through 6 and paragraph 10, above.
- 13. Defendant is a manufacturer, distributor, or seller who had reason to know at the time of the retail sale that the Vehicle was required for a particular purpose and that the Plaintiff was relying on the Defendant's skill or judgment to select or furnish suitable goods.
- 14. Pursuant to Civil Code § 1792.1, the sale of the Vehicle was accompanied by Defendant's implied warranty that the Vehicle would be fit for Plaintiff's particular purpose. The duration of the implied warranty is coextensive in duration with the duration of the express written warranty provided by Defendant.
- 15. On or about July 24, 2007, or during the time period in which the implied warranty was in effect, the Vehicle contained or developed the defects stated in paragraph 6, above. The existence of each of these defects constitutes a breach of the implied warranty because the Vehicle is not fit for Plaintiff's particular purpose.
- 16. Plaintiff has been damaged by Defendant's failure to comply with its obligations under the implied warranty, and therefore brings this claim pursuant to Civil Code § 1794.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

# THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST DEFENDANT **BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY** CAL. CIV. CODE § 1794

- Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in 17. paragraphs 4 through 6 and paragraph 10, above.
- In accordance with Defendant's warranty, Plaintiff delivered the 18. Vehicle to Defendant's representative in this state to perform warranty repairs. Plaintiff did so within a reasonable time. Each time Plaintiff delivered the Vehicle, Plaintiff notified Defendant and its representative of the characteristics of the defects. However, the representative failed to repair the Vehicle, breaching the terms of the written warranty on each occasion.
- Plaintiff has been damaged by Defendant's failure to comply with its 19. obligations under the express warranty, and therefore brings this claim pursuant to Civil Code § 1794.
- 20. Defendant's failure to comply with its obligations under the express warranty was willful, in that Defendant and its representative were aware of their obligation to repair the Vehicle under the express warranty, but they intentionally declined to fulfill that obligation. Accordingly, Plaintiff is entitled to a civil penalty of two times Plaintiff's actual damages pursuant to Civil Code § 1794(c).

# FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST DEFENDANT FAILURE TO PROMPTLY REPURCHASE PRODUCT CAL. CIV. CODE § 1793.2(d)

- 21. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 4 through 6, above.
- Defendant and its representatives in this state have been unable to 22. service or repair the Vehicle to conform to the applicable express warranties after a

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

reasonable number of attempts. Despite this fact, Defendant failed to promp	tly
replace the Vehicle or make restitution to Plaintiff as required by Civil Code	<b>§</b> §
1793.2(d) and 1793.1(a)(2).	

- 23. Plaintiff has been damaged by Defendant's failure to comply with its obligations pursuant to Civil Code §§ 1793.2(d) and 1793.1(a)(2), and therefore brings this claim pursuant to § 1794.
- 24. Defendant's failure to comply with its obligations under § 1793.2(d) was willful, in that Defendant and its representative were aware that they were unable to service or repair the Vehicle to conform to the applicable express warranties after a reasonable number of repair attempts, yet Defendant failed and refused to promptly replace the Vehicle or make restitution despite Plaintiff's demand. Accordingly, Plaintiff is entitled to a civil penalty of two times Plaintiff's actual damages pursuant to § 1794(c).
- Defendant does not maintain a qualified third-party dispute resolution 25. process which substantially complies with § 1793.22. Despite Defendant's violation of § 1793.2(d) and its notice thereof, Defendant failed to comply with its obligations within a reasonable time. Accordingly, Plaintiff is entitled to a civil penalty of two times Plaintiff's actual damages pursuant to Civil Code § 1794(e).
- Plaintiff seeks civil penalties pursuant to § 1794, subdivisions (c) and (e) in the alternative and does not seek to cumulate civil penalties, as provided in § 1794(f).

## FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST DEFENDANT FAILURE TO COMMENCE REPAIRS WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME AND TO COMPLETE THEM WITHIN 30 DAYS CAL. CIV. CODE § 1794

Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in 27. paragraphs 4 through 6 and paragraph 10, above.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

28. Although Plaintiff delivered the Vehicle to Defendant's representativ
in this state, Defendant and its representative failed to commence the service or
repairs within a reasonable time and failed to service or repair the Vehicle so as to
conform to the applicable warranties within 30 days, in violation of Civil Code §
1793.2(b). Plaintiff did not extend the time for completion of repairs beyond the
30-day requirement.

- 29. Plaintiff has been damaged by Defendant's failure to comply with its obligations pursuant to § 1793.2(b), and therefore brings this claim pursuant to § 1794.
- 30. Defendant's failure to comply with its obligations under § 1793.2(b) was willful, in that Defendant and its representative were aware that they were obligated to service or repair the Vehicle to conform to the applicable express warranties within 30 days, yet they failed to do so. Accordingly, Plaintiff is entitled to a civil penalty of two times Plaintiff's actual damages pursuant to § 1794(c).

## SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST DEFENDANT **CONVERSION**

- 31. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the Fourth Claim for Relief, above.
- Plaintiff is the owner of and has an immediate right to possession of a 32. specific sum of money which is capable of identification. Farmers Ins. Ex. v. Zerin, 53 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 445, 451-52 (1997). Specifically, pursuant to Civil Code § 1793.2(d), Plaintiff is entitled to restitution of the amounts paid or payable for the Vehicle from Defendant.
- Instead of delivering the money to which Plaintiff is entitled to 33. Plaintiff, Defendant has wrongfully converted that money for its own use.
  - 34. As a result of Defendant's conversion, Plaintiff has suffered damages.

1	1
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
8	
19 20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

27

28

35. Defendant's conduct was fraudulent, oppressive, and malicious, and
thus, Plaintiff is entitled to recover punitive damages pursuant to Civil Code
section 3294. Specifically, Defendant was aware of its obligation to make
restitution to Plaintiff and intentionally failed to do so. In addition, Defendant
falsely and intentionally misrepresented to Plaintiff that it was not obligated to
make restitution. Furthermore, Defendant is aware that Plaintiff has little choice
but to continue using the defective Vehicle, and Defendant intentionally refused to
make restitution to Plaintiff with the intent of arguing that Plaintiff's continued use
is a reason to deny restitution to Plaintiff.

### **PRAYER**

PLAINTIFF PRAYS for judgment against Defendant as follows:

- For Plaintiff's damages in the amount of at least \$30,552.83. 1.
- 2. For restitution to Plaintiff in the amount of \$30,552.83.
- 3. On Plaintiff's Third Claim for Relief, for a civil penalty in the amount of \$61,105.66, which is two times Plaintiff's total damages, pursuant to Civil Code § 1794(c) and (e).
- On Plaintiff's Fourth Claim for Relief, for a civil penalty in the amount of \$61,105.66, which is two times Plaintiff's total damages, pursuant to Civil Code § 1794(c) and (e).
- On Plaintiff's Fifth Claim for Relief, for a civil penalty in the amount of \$61,105.66, which is two times Plaintiff's total damages, pursuant to Civil Code § 1794(c) and (e).
  - For any consequential and incidental damages. 6.
  - 7. For punitive damages in the amount of at least \$100,000.
- 8. For costs of the suit and Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Civil Code § 1794(d).
  - For prejudgment interest at the legal rate. 9.

COMPLAINT; DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Document 1

Filed 04/11/2008

Page 9 of 11

Case 3:08-cv-00665-BTM-AJB

ANDERSON LAW FIRM

## SJS 44 (Rev. 12/07) Case 3:08-cv-00665-BTM-ALB Document SHEET 04/11/2008 Page 10 of 11

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provide by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM)

the civil docket sheet. (SEE IN	ISTRUCTIONS ON THE REVE	RSE OF THE FORM.)					
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		-		DEFENDANTS			
DENISE MILLER	00.45		GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION				
(b) County of Residence (E	of First Eigled Plaintiff	H 4: 35 an Diego		NOTE: IN LAND	(IN.U.S. PI CONDEMN	LAINTIFF CASES O	(not a US Pltf case)  NLY): E THE LOCATION OF THE
	BY:				NVOLVED.		
	, Addres, and Telephone Numbe			Attorneys (If Known)	8 24	0665	I AJB -
Anderson Law Firm, Tel: (714) 516-2700	2070 N. Tustin Ave.,	Santa Ana, CA 9	2705 +		O D4		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)			RINCIPA		Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
☐ I U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government N	Not a Party)		(For Diversity Cases Only) PT en of This State		Incorporated or Print of Business In This	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	■ 4 Diversity  (Indicate Citizenship	o of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	2 🗖 2	Incorporated and Proof Business In A	•
	(Marcato Ottozalani)	, or r arries in nem m,		en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗇 3	Foreign Nation	<b>0</b> 6 <b>0</b> 6
IV. NATURE OF SUI							INE HOUSE STATE OF THE STATE OF
D 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY						400 State Reapportionment
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	□ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 700 Other Personal Injury □ 341 Voting □ 441 Voting □ 442 Employment □ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 444 Welfare □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	PERSONAL INJUR' 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 368 Asbestos Persona Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER' 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability  IPRISONER/PETITIO 510 Motions to Vacat Sentence Habeas Corpus: 530 General 535 Death Penalty 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition	62   62   62   62   62   62   62   62	60 Airline Regs. 60 Occupational Safety/Health 60 Other 60 Fair Labor Standards Act 60 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 60 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting & Disclosure Act	423 With 28 US   1820 Copy   820 Copy   830 Pater   840 Trade   861 HIA   862 Black   864 SSIE   865 RSI (	SC 157  RTY/RIGHTS MANUAL PRINTS  It cemark  SECURITY MANUAL (1395ff) k  Lung (923)  C/DIWW (405(g))  Title XVI	□ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and
<b>□</b> 2 R	ate Court	Appellate Court	Reo	pened anothe	ferred from er district fy)	☐ 6 Multidistr Litigation	
VI CALIED OF LOT	Cite the U.S. Civil Sta	tute under which you a	re filing	(Do not cite jurisdictions	al statutes u	inless diversity):	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	Brief description of ca Consumer War	use:					
VII. REQUESTED IN				DEMAND \$ 9.81		CHECK YES only URY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:  ✓ Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CAS	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKI	ET NUMBER	
DATE 04/07/2008		SIGNATURE OF A	ORNEY	OF RECORD		· .	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	t.	<del></del>		$\overline{}$		<del></del>	
ORIGINA	MOUNT \$350 SM 4/11/0	APPLYING IFP_		JUDGE _	,	MAG. JUI	DGE

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO DIVISION

# 149682 - SH

April 11, 2008 16:26:45

#### Civ Fil Non-Pris

USA0 #.: 08CV0664

Judge..: NAPOLEON A JONES, JR

Amount.:

\$350.00 CK

Check#.: BC1166

Total-> \$350.00

FROM: MILLER V. GM CORP